



Margie Neal was born in Clayton and spent most of her life in Carthage. In 1903 she became editor and publisher of a weekly newspaper, the *East Texas Register*, which was owned by her family. She served as district chair in the suffrage fight and was the first women to register to vote in Panola County. Neal was the first woman appointed to the board of regents of the state teachers' colleges and the first woman member of the state Democratic executive committee. In 1926, she was elected to the Texas Senate, where she concentrated on education reform, funding for rural schools, and rehabilitation for the handicapped. She left the Senate in 1935 to go to Washington to work for the National Recovery Administration and the Social Security Administration. She returned to Texas during the war to work for the Manpower Commission. She retired to Carthage in 1945 where she continued to be active in civic affairs for many years.

Photo from *The Life of Margie Neal*, by Walter Lawrence Harris, University of Texas, 1955. Archives and Information Services Division, Texas State Library and Archives Commission.